

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Below the paragraph appearing on page 60, lines 23-27, please insert the following paragraph:

In another embodiment, the polymer covers all or a portion of the surface in a thickness of about 0.5 μm to about 2.0 mm.

Please replace the paragraph appearing on page 41, lines 29-20 and page 42, lines 1-14, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment, the polymer is formulated such that it will be released over an extended period of time when administered according to the methods of the invention. For example, the polymer can conveniently be formulated so that it will be released over a period of at least about 2, about 5, about 7, about 10, about 20, about 40, about 60, about 80, about 100, about 120, about 140, about 160, about 180, about 200, about 220, about 240, about 260, about 280, about 300, about 320, about 340, or about 360 days. In one embodiment, the polymer is formulated so that it is released over at least about 5 or about 10 days. In another embodiment, the polymer is formulated so that it is released over at least about 3 months, about 6 months or about 12 months. The polymer can also be formulated so that it is released over a period of about 30 to about 90 days. In another embodiment, the active agent is disassociated from the polymer over a period of about 2 days to about 2 years. For the treatment of hard tissue, in one embodiment, the polymer is formulated so that it is released over a period of about 30 to about 90 days. For the treatment of soft tissue, in one embodiment, the polymer is formulated so that it is released over a period of about 1 to about 30 days, more preferably about 2 to about 25 days. In another embodiment, the polymer is formulated such that it will be released over about 1 to 2 years.